



DARK NIGHTS

3

DEATH



Scott  
Snyder

Greg  
Capullo

Jonathan  
Glapion

Fco  
Plascencia



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**Scott  
Snyder**

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**FCI  
Plascencia**



DARK NIGHTS

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# DEATH



Scott  
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DARK NIGHTS

3

# METAL



**Scott  
Snyder**  
**Greg  
Capullo**

**Jonathan  
Glapion**

**FCO  
Plascencia**

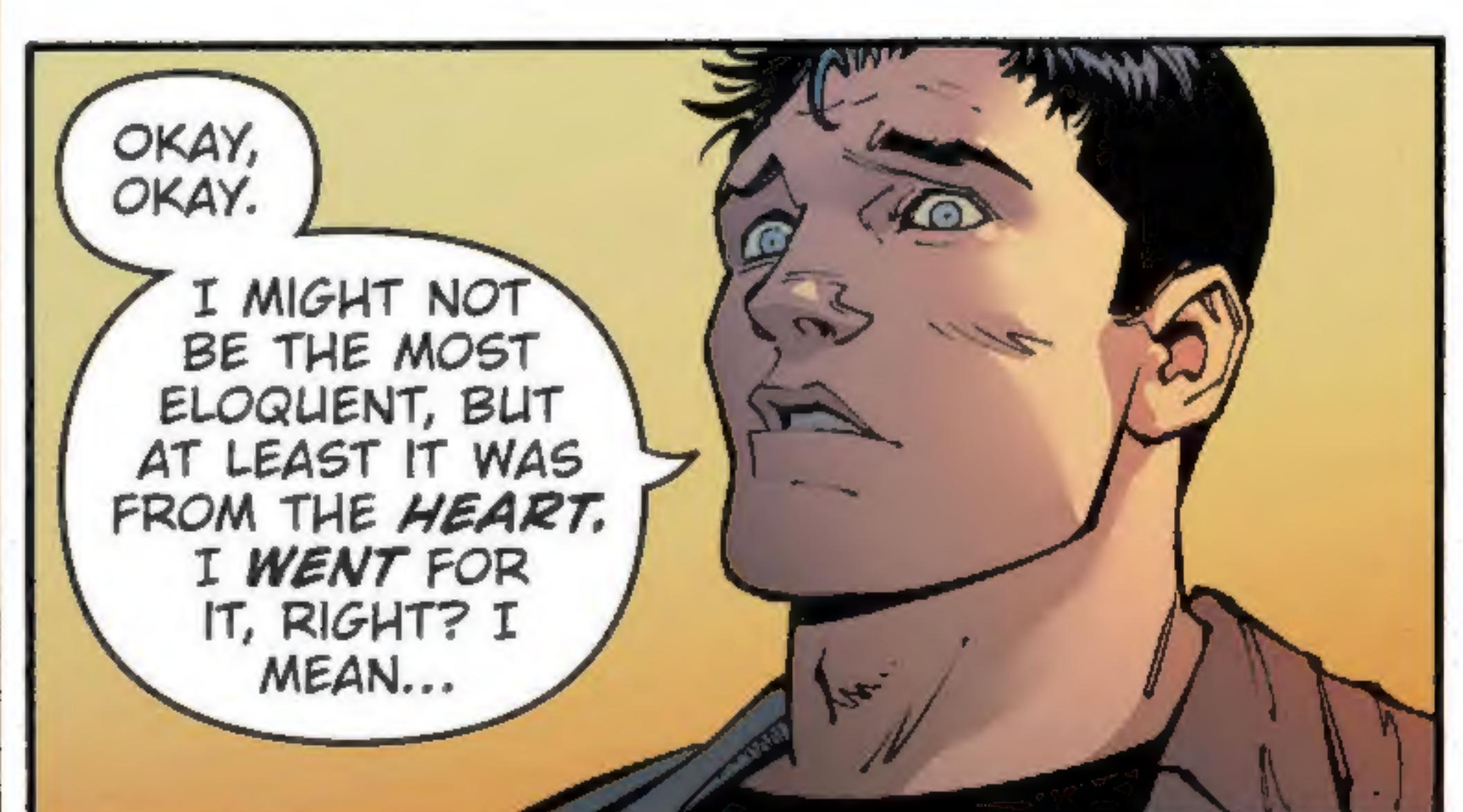
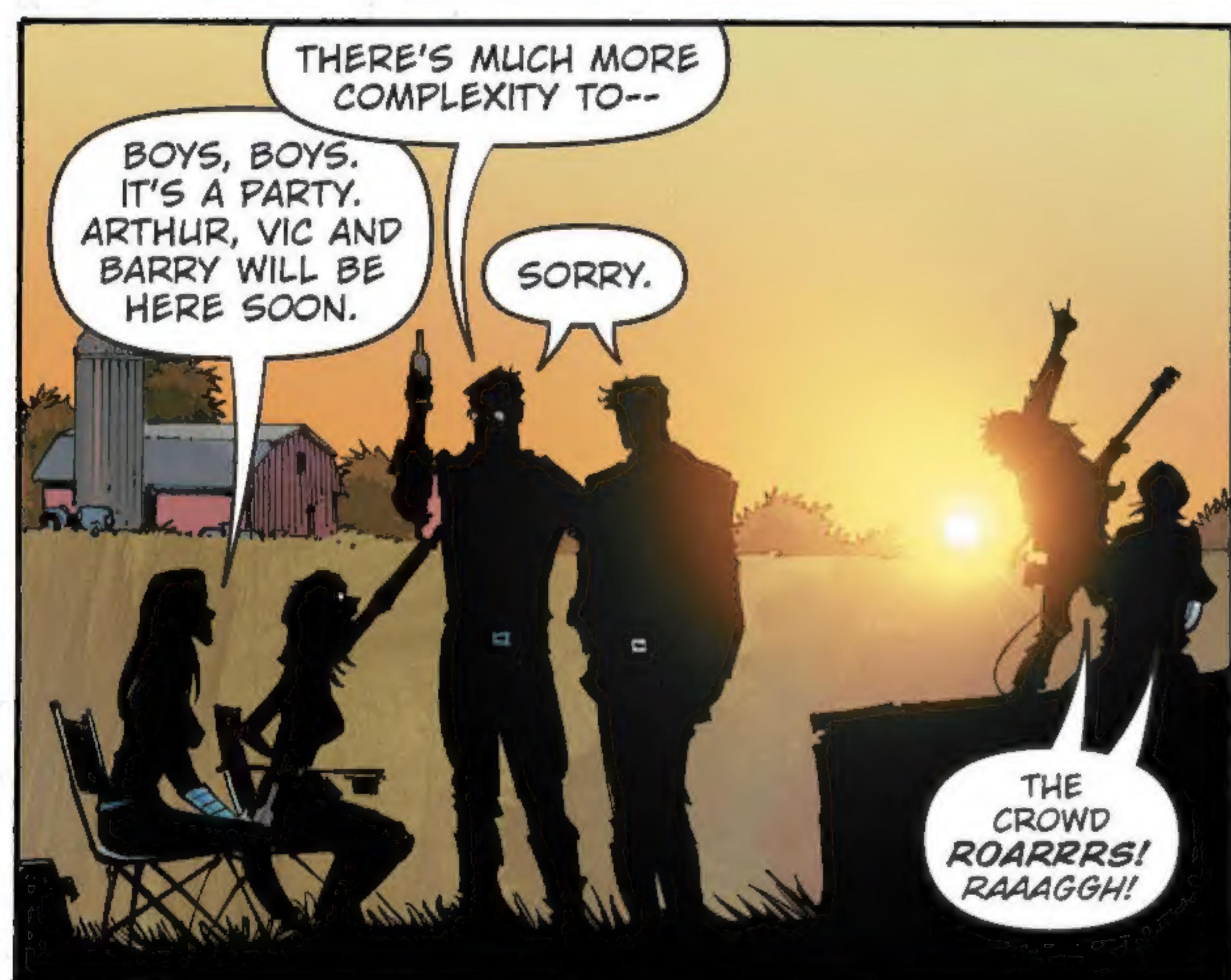
JR  
JR  
White

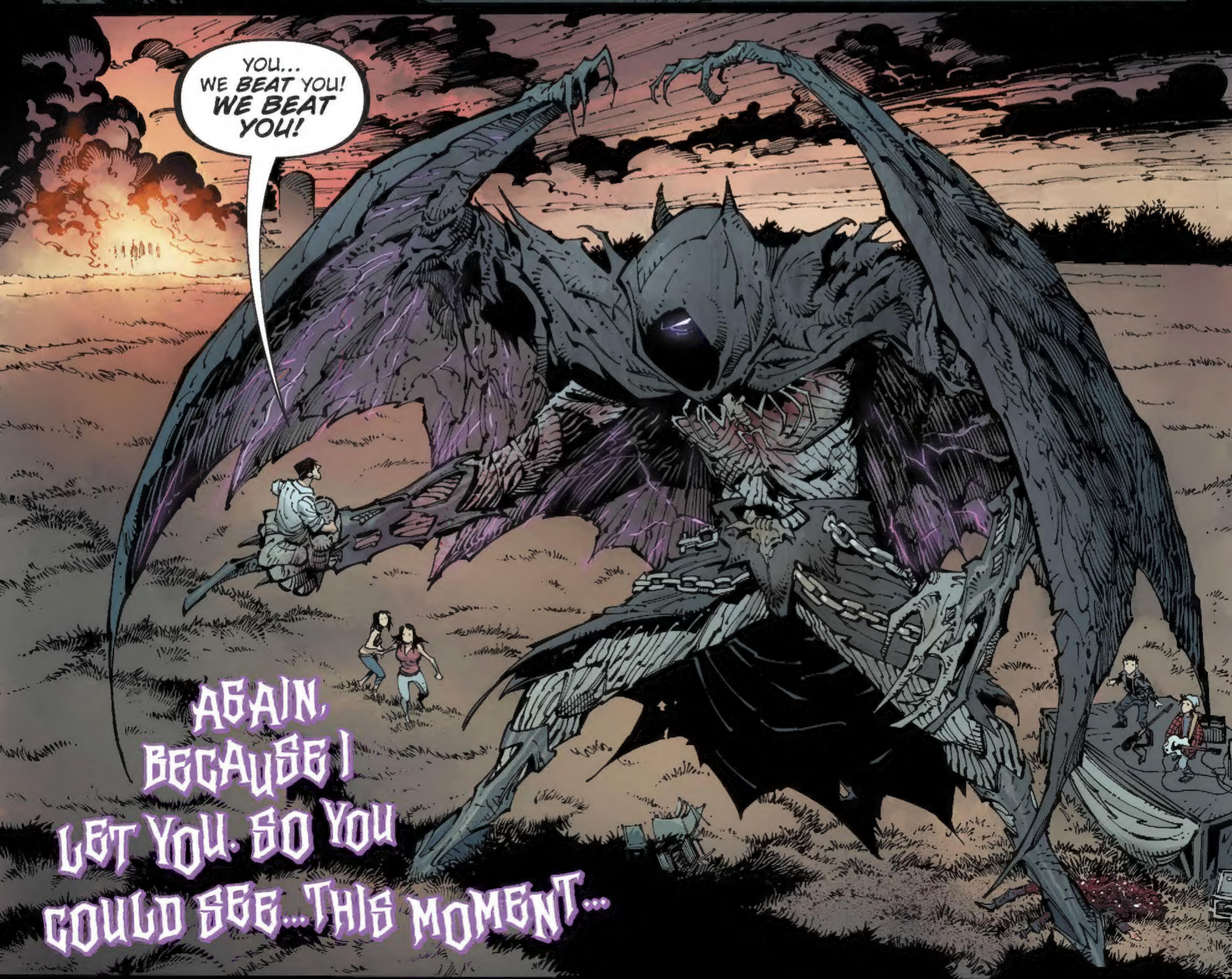
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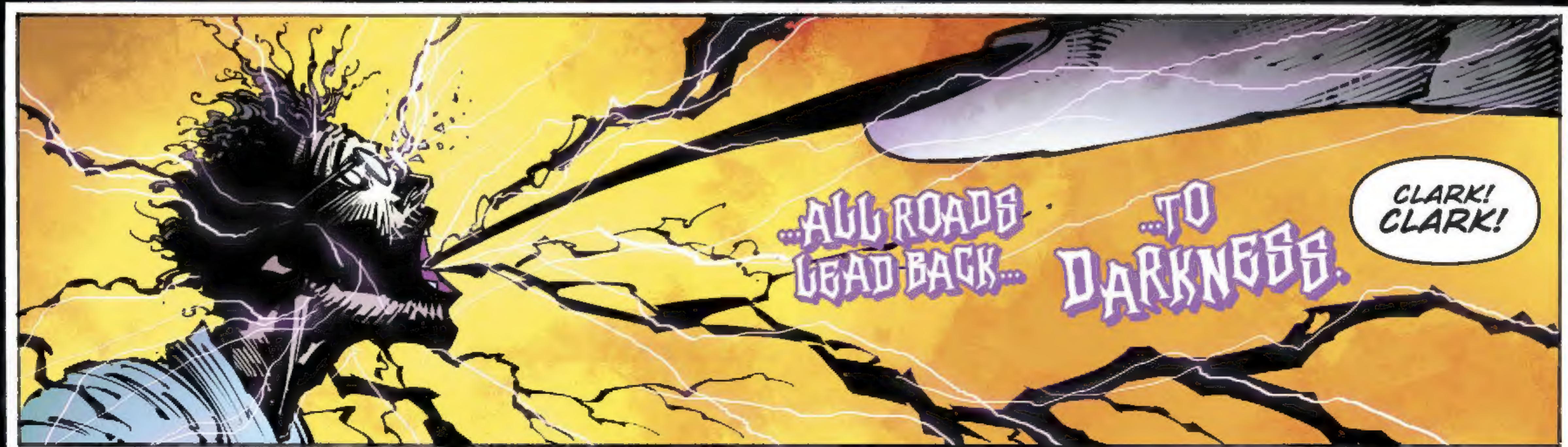
CHILDHOOD HOME OF...

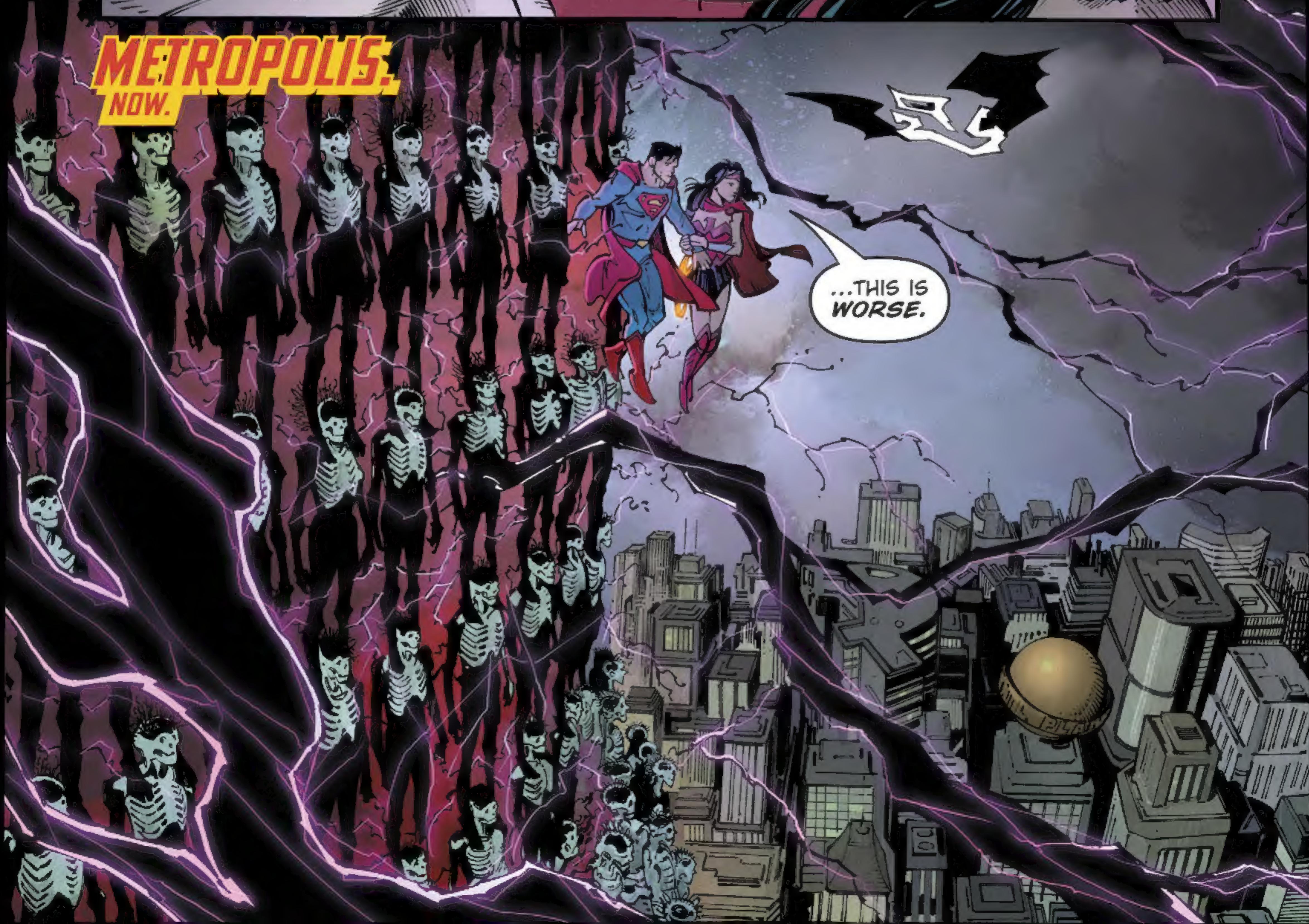
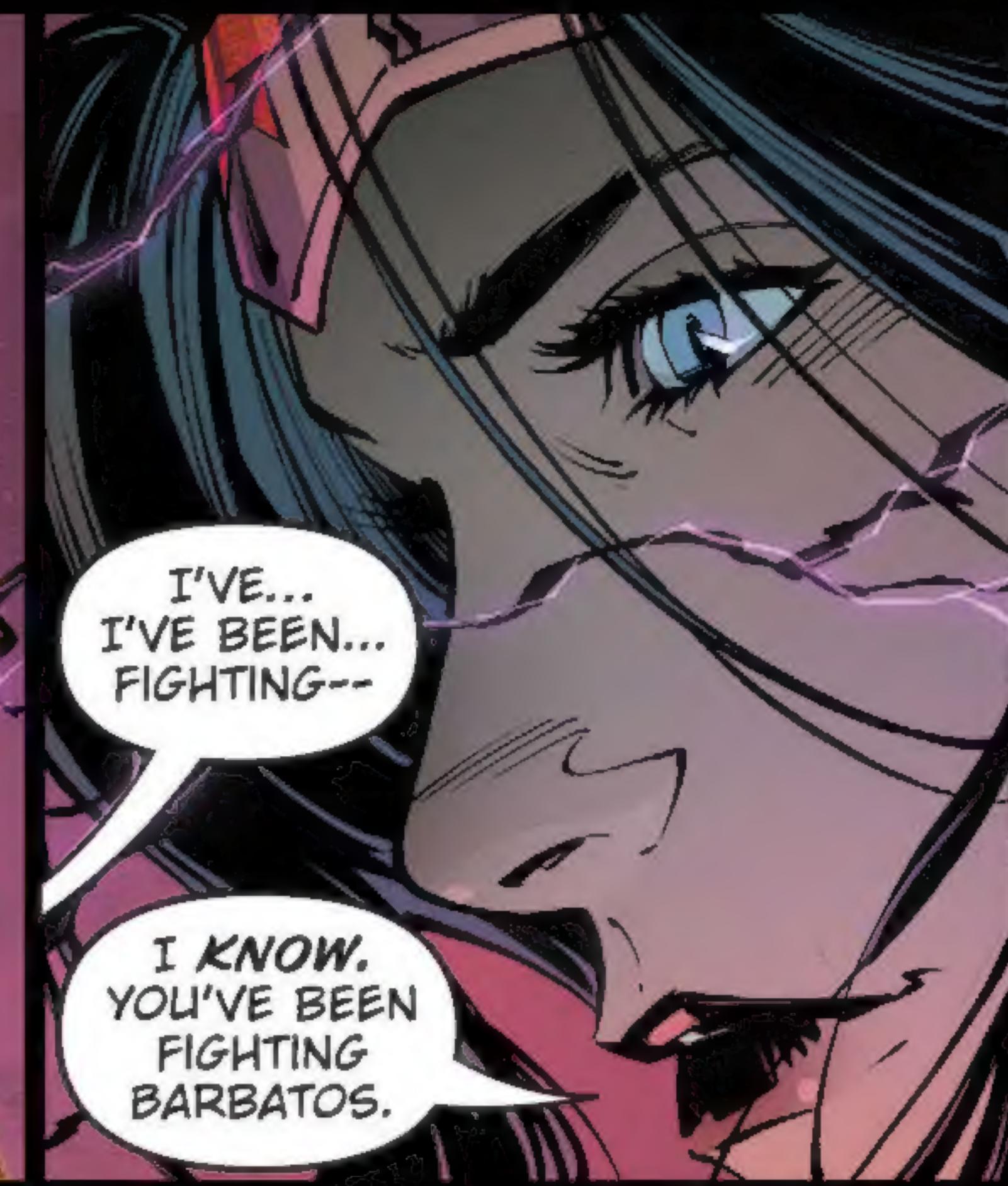
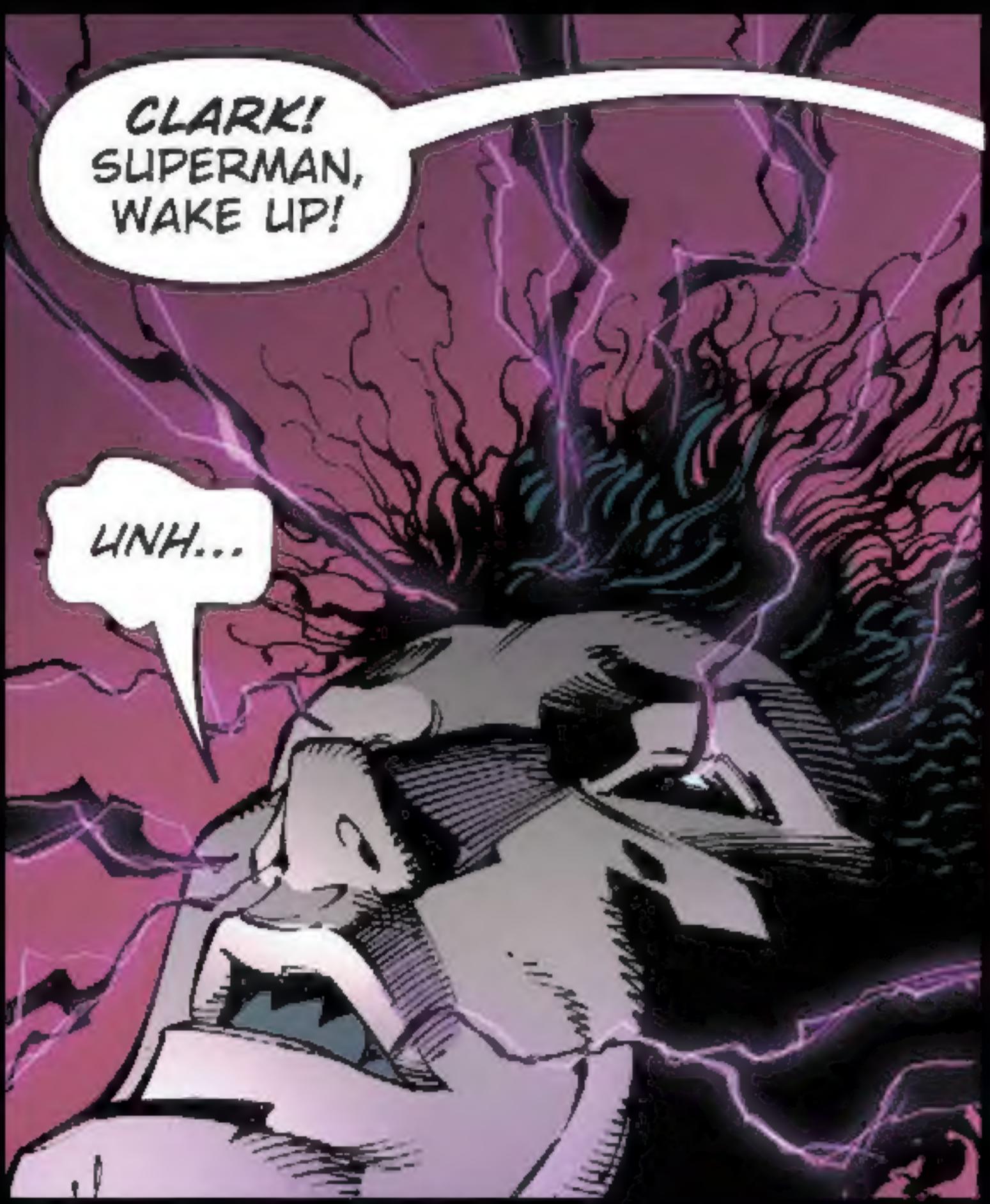


ALL  
RIGHT, YOU  
PHILISTINES, IN  
THREE, TWO,  
ONE...





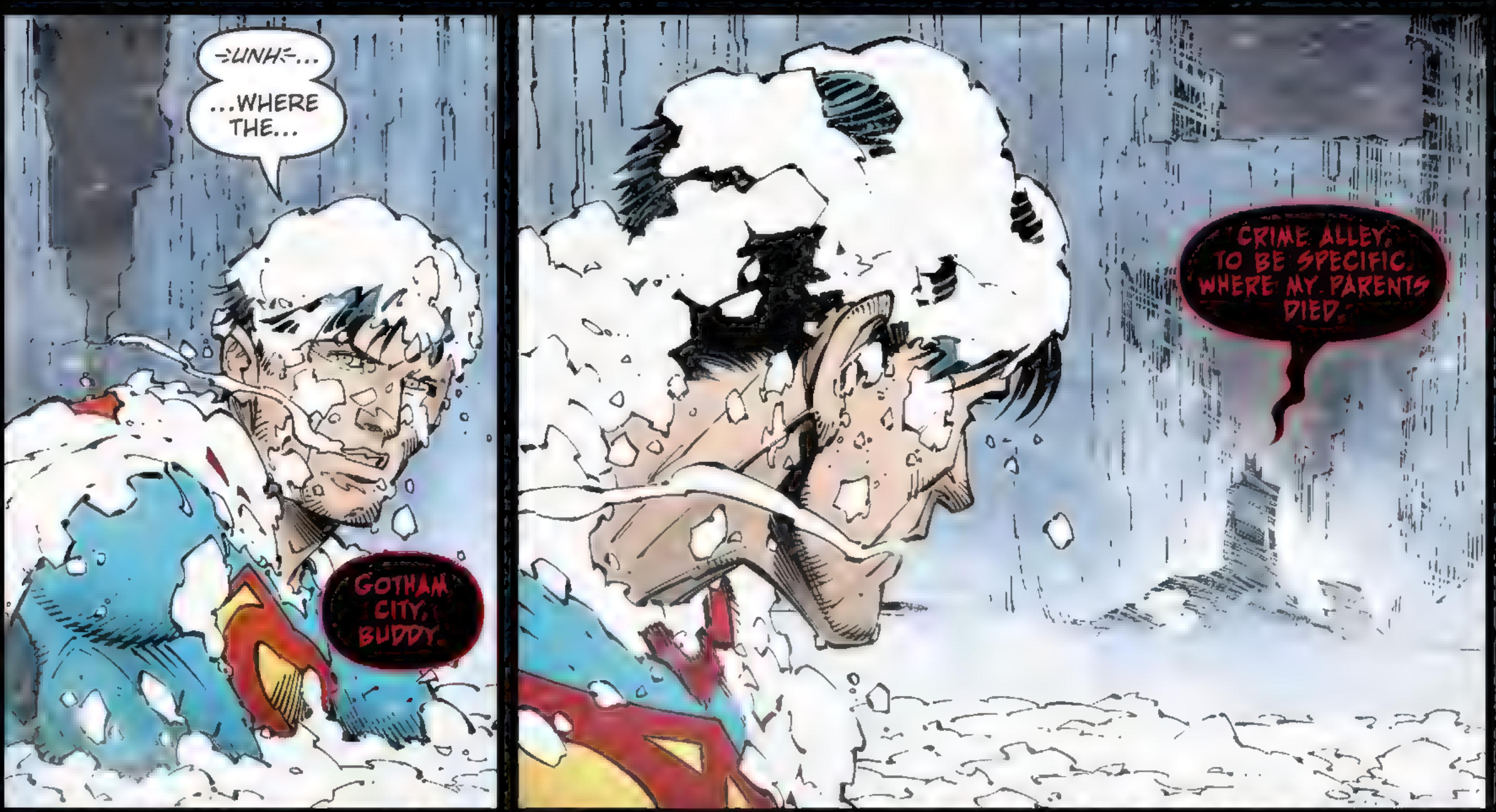
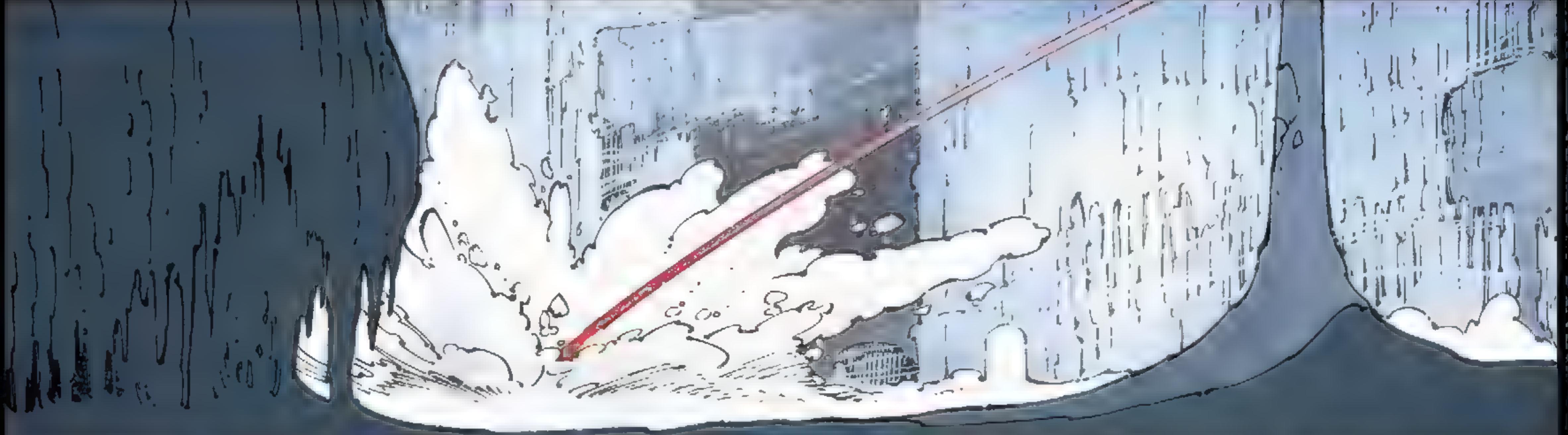


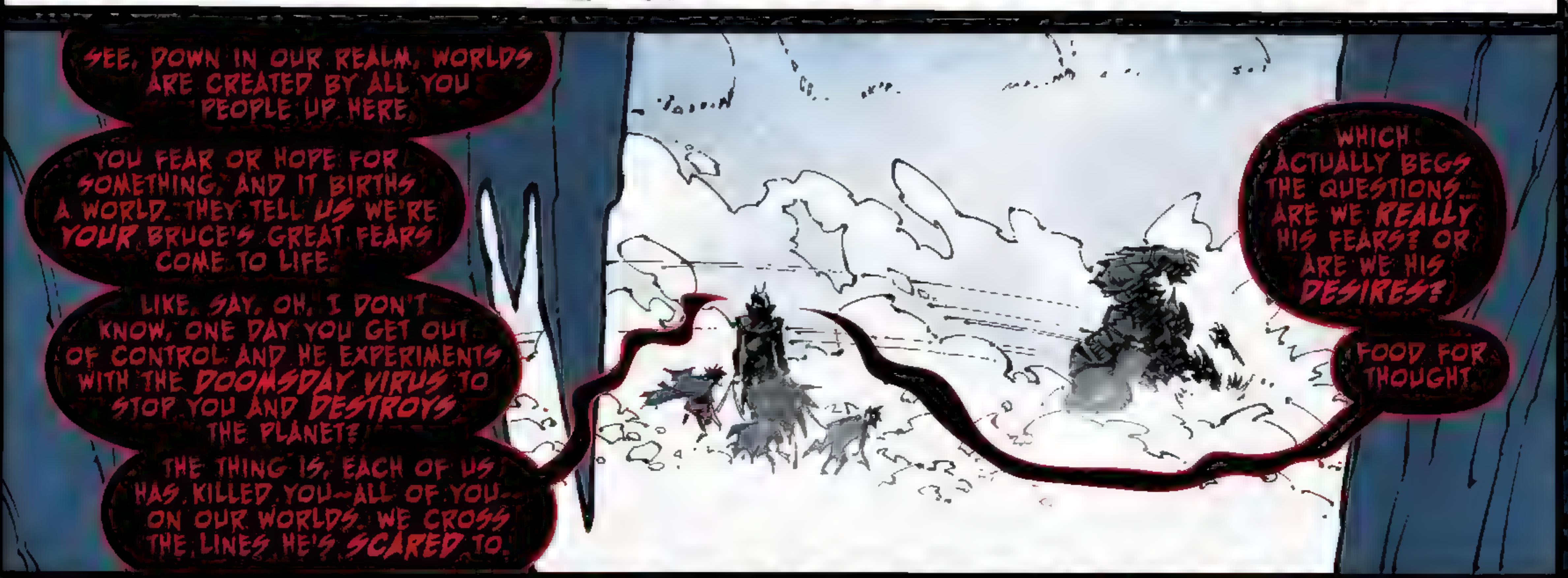
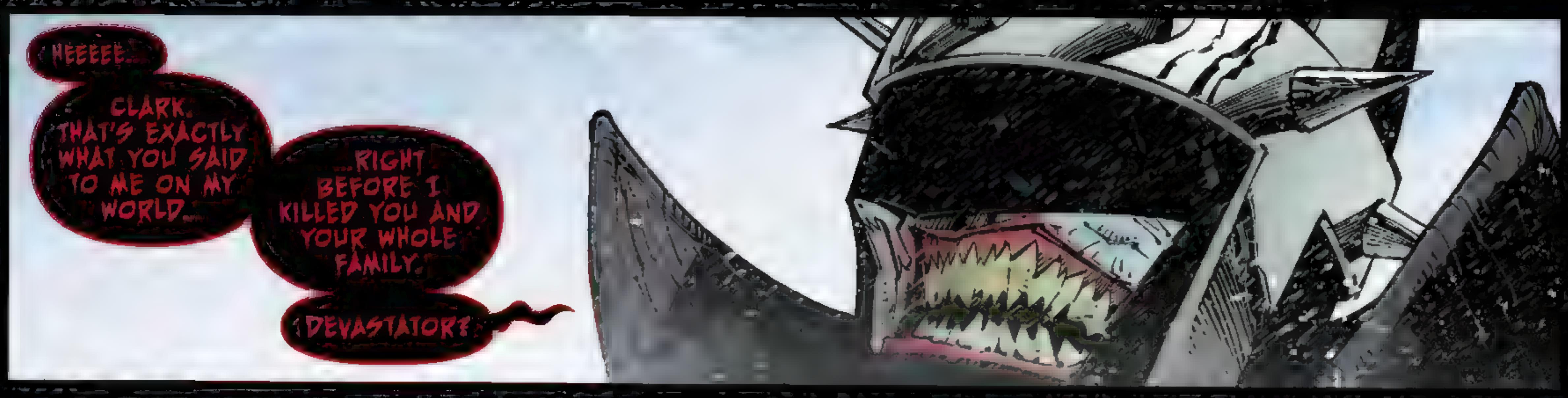
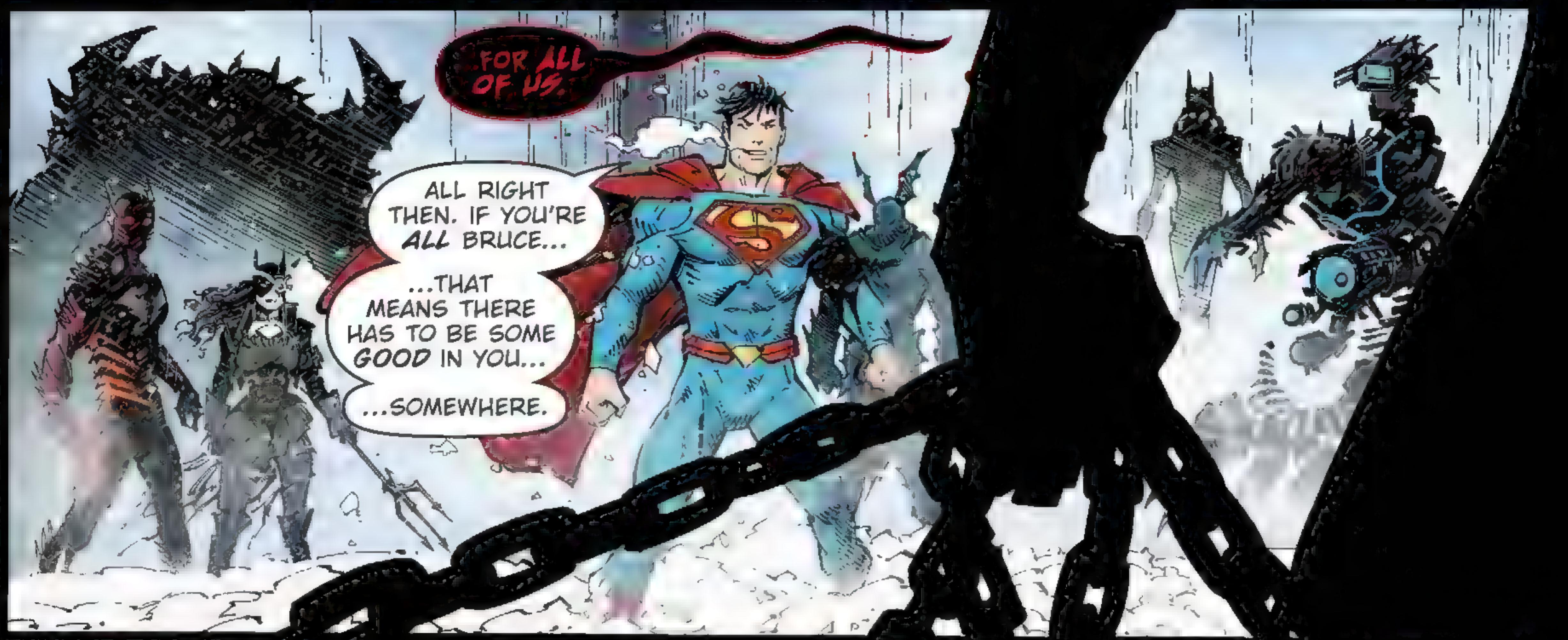


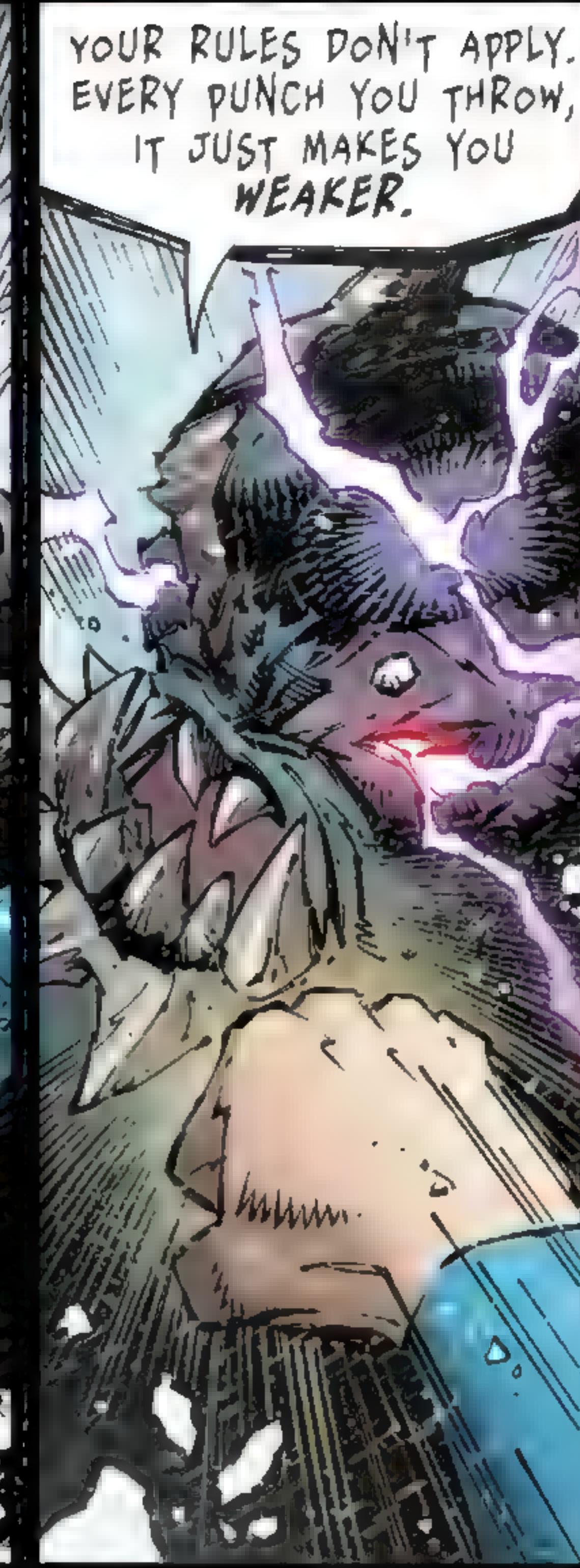
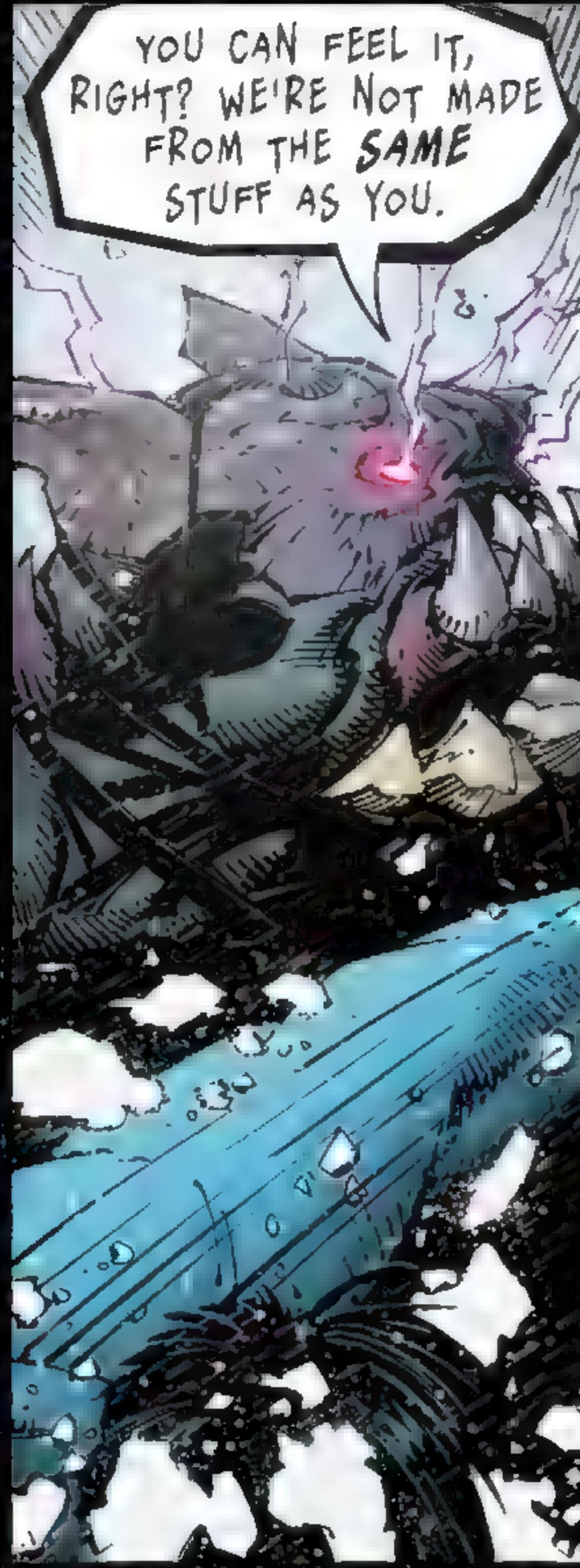
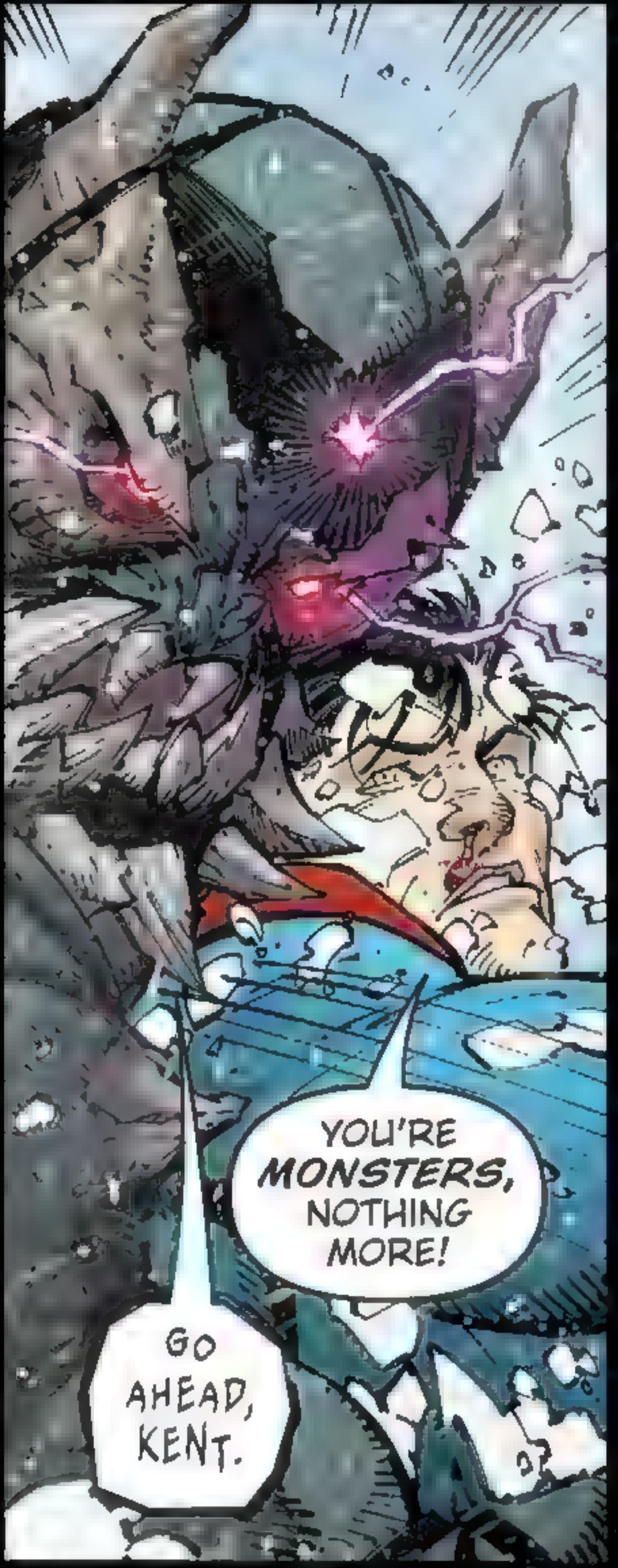


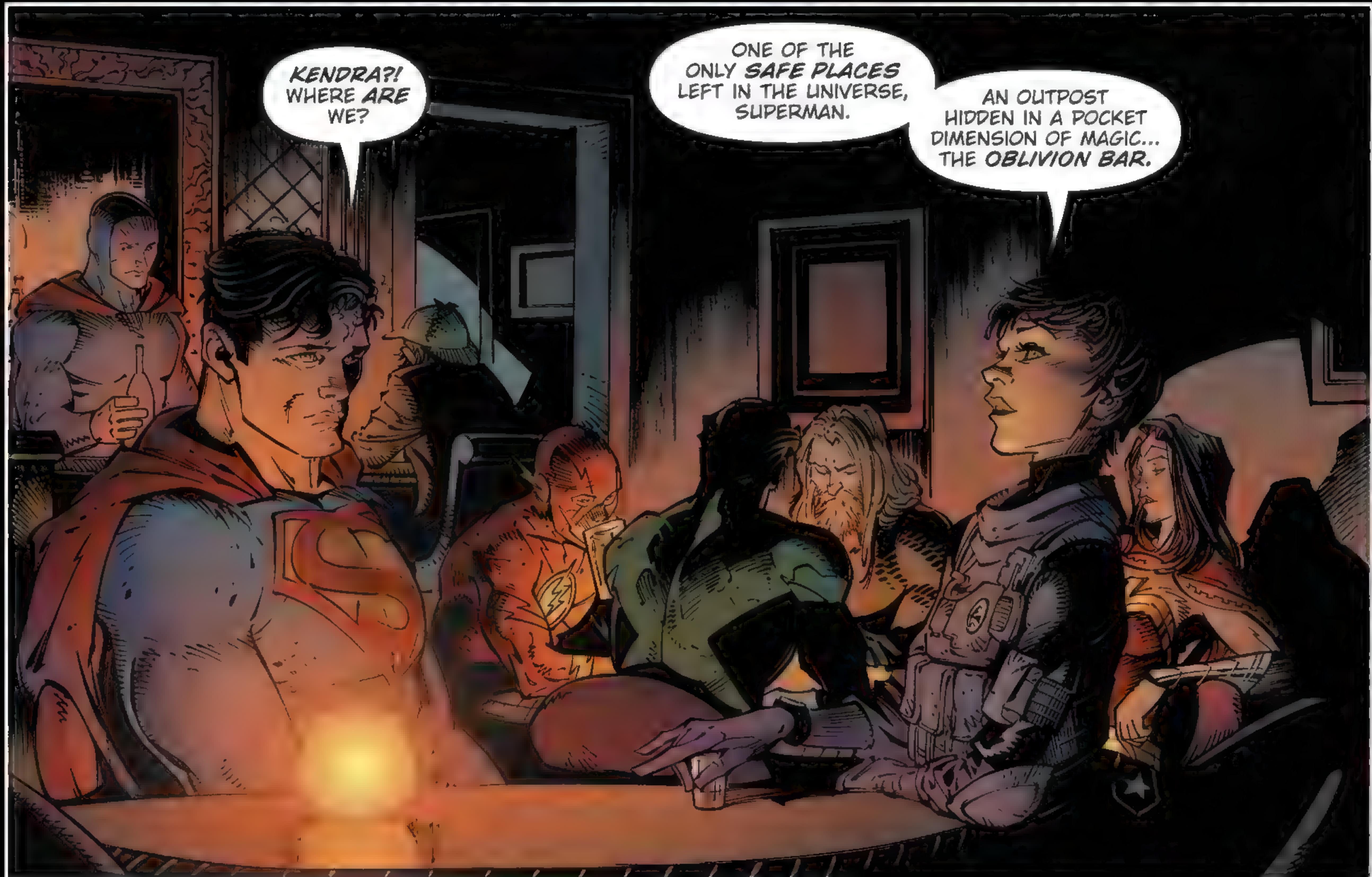
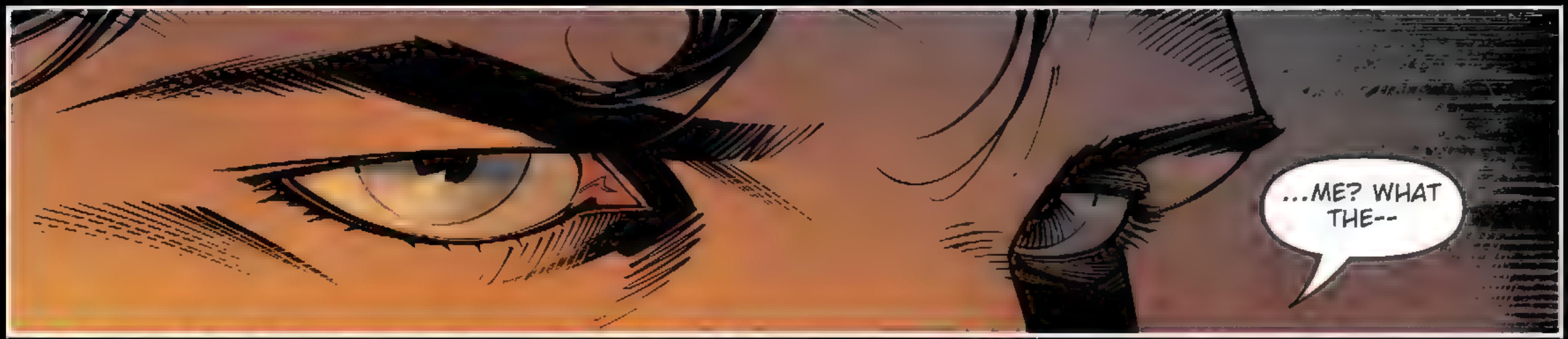












...WE LOST.

NIGHTWING?  
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE  
BEEN--

THROUGH HELL? NO  
KIDDING. WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING  
WITHOUT SLEEP NONSTOP, DAY  
IN AND DAY OUT.

A TEAM OF US  
TRIED TO WIN BACK GOTHAM,  
JUST GOTHAM...BUT BARBATOS  
AND THE DARK KNIGHTS...THEY'RE  
TOO POWERFUL.\*

"THE ONE CALLED  
MURDER MACHINE,  
HE INFECTED DETROIT  
WITH NANO-ALFREDS.

MAY  
I HELP  
YOU?

MAY  
I HELP  
YOU?

"THE ONE CALLED RED DEATH  
CREATED A SPEED FORCE STORM  
IN CENTRAL CITY THAT KILLS ANYONE  
WHO TOUCHES IT IN SECONDS.

\*FOR MORE ON JON SNOW  
NIGHTWING READ GOTHAM  
RESISTANCE. WINTER  
CAME. -EDDIE & TAY

MORE CITIES WILL PROBABLY  
FALL BY TONIGHT. EVERY PLACE  
THE DARK KNIGHTS CONQUER,  
THEY CREATE THOSE TOWERS  
OF PEOPLE...LIVING CONDU-  
CTORS OF DARK ENERGY.

OF COURSE...  
THEY'RE CREATING  
A CIRCUIT...THEY'RE  
GOING TO TRY TO SINK  
THE WORLD INTO THE  
DARK! WE NEED TO  
FIGHT THEM!

FLASH TRIED  
IN CENTRAL CITY.  
GREEN LANTERN IN  
COAST CITY. CYBORG  
WENT DOWN ON THE  
WATCHTOWER. WE  
HAVEN'T HEARD FROM  
HIM IN DAYS.

AND I...  
I LOST  
THE TEEN  
TITANS...

...KIDS,  
CLARK.  
KIDS.

HEY, BOY SCOUT. YOU NEED TO ACCEPT THIS A LOT FASTER. BECAUSE EVERY MOMENT, THOSE TOWERS ARE GROWING. AND IF THEY SOMEHOW ACTIVATE...?

NOT TO MENTION WE LIKELY ONLY HAVE MINUTES BEFORE THE DARK KNIGHTS FIND US. THAT WAS THE COST OF GETTING YOU. A COST I WAS AGAINST.

SAY WHAT YOU WILL, BUT I'VE BEEN IN ENOUGH WARS TO KNOW WE NEED EVERY GOOD WARRIOR.

WONDER WOMAN, I WAS FIGHTING WARS BACK WHEN YOU WERE STILL A PILE OF DIRT.

NOW IF YOU'D LISTENED TO ME BACK AT BLACKHAWK ISLAND AND GIVEN ME BATMAN INSTEAD OF PROTECTING HIM, MAYBE WE'D HAVE A CHANCE.

BUT THESE THINGS ARE KILLING MACHINES AND NOW THERE'S NOTHING THAT WILL STOP BARBATOS OR THEM FROM--

THIS STOPS THEM.

NTH METAL. IT HURTS THEM. WE SAW IT IN GOTHAM.

GREEN ARROW IS RIGHT.

=TT= SHAME YOU AND YOUR BIRD GOONS DESTROYED ALL OF THE STUFF, SAUNDERS.

NOT ALL OF IT, ROBIN.

HUH

I CAN SENSE THE LAST REPOSITORIES OF NTH METAL OUT THERE. STEEL'S HAMMER, MY HELMET AND THE PLASTIC MAN EGG THERE.

IT'S LIKE THE DARK ENERGY IS CREATING A LINK BETWEEN WHAT LITTLE NTH METAL IS LEFT AND REACTIVE METALS HERE ON EARTH.

FATE'S RIGHT. THE EGG... IT'S VIBRATING... BUT IN PATTERNS. I THINK... THEY'RE COORDINATES...?

HERE... IF I'M CORRECT, ONE LOCATION IS DEEP SPACE... ONE IS BENEATH ATLANTIS... AND ONE POINTS TO THE CENTER OF THE MULTIVERSE?

THE CENTER OF THE MULTIVERSE LIES AT THE ROCK OF ETERNITY.

ALL RIGHT THEN, IF NTH METAL IS WHAT WE NEED TO KILL THESE THINGS, THEN WE BREAK INTO TEAMS. ONE METAL-LINKED ALLY ON EACH SQUAD.

GREEN LANTERN, YOU AND MR. TERRIFIC TAKE THE PLASTIC MAN EGG TO THE LOCATION IN SPACE. ARTHUR, ATLANTIS IS--

THAT LOCATION IS NOT... ACCESSIBLE.

AND ONE OF THOSE THINGS TOOK MERA. YOU STILL KNOW NOTHING OF THE SECRETS OF--

WAIT! THERE'S ONE MORE SET OF COORDINATES...

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, NOT ACCESSIBLE?! THIS IS WORLD-ENDING STUFF. GET YOUR HEAD OUT OF THE WATER!

I JUST WATCHED MY FAMILY GET SWALLOWED BY SHADOWS!

THEY'RE COMING THROUGH MORE STRONGLY THAN THE REST... THE LOCATION IS... BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

WHERE IS IT?  
IT'S... NOWHERE. THE COORDINATES ARE NEGATIVE. THEY POINT TO...

...DARKNESS.



THE DARK MULTIVERSE. I KNEW IT. IT'S BATMAN. HE'S THE KEY. WE NEED TO GO GET HIM!

LISTEN, I FOUGHT BARBATOS IN LIFE AFTER LIFE, AND IN THE LAST FEW... BATMAN...I COULD FEEL HIM CALLING OUT TO ME THROUGH THE DARK. THE FINAL TIME, IN SMALLVILLE, HE SAID SOMETHING THAT DIDN'T TRACK.

WAIT. YOU WANT TO GO INTO THE DARK MULTIVERSE BECAUSE OF SOMETHING BATMAN SAID IN A DREAM?! OPEN YOUR EYES! BARBATOS GIVES YOU HOPE JUST TO CRUSH YOU HARDER.

IT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO CARTER! IT'S ALL A TRAP! I PROMISE YOU. WITH BARBATOS, ALL ROADS LEAD BACK TO--

DON'T EVEN.

WHEN WE STARTED OUT, WONDER WOMAN, BATMAN AND I HAD A CODE FOR THE DIREST SITUATIONS. A PRIVATE S.O.S.

THE CODE WAS AN ALPHABETICAL TRINITY. HE SAID "CARPE DIEM," DIANA. THAT COULD MEAN--

I KNOW WHAT IT COULD MEAN. BUT WE HAVE REAL ASSETS TO GO AFTER HERE. THE DARK MULTIVERSE IS A TOTAL UNKNOWN AND--

I FELT IT, TOO.

I FELT HIM REACHING OUT. TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING.

AND WHAT DO YOU SAY, NIGHTWING? YOU KNOW HIM AS WELL AS ANYONE.

I SAY...  
I SAY WE FIGHT HERE.

I'M SORRY, ROBIN! I LOVE HIM, JUST LIKE I LOVE YOU. BUT I...

...I ALWAYS THOUGHT I WAS A BALANCE TO HIS DARKNESS... NOW SEEING HIS DEMONS IN THE FLESH, WHAT THEY DID TO US ON THEIR WORLDS... AND THE ONE WHO LAUGHS...

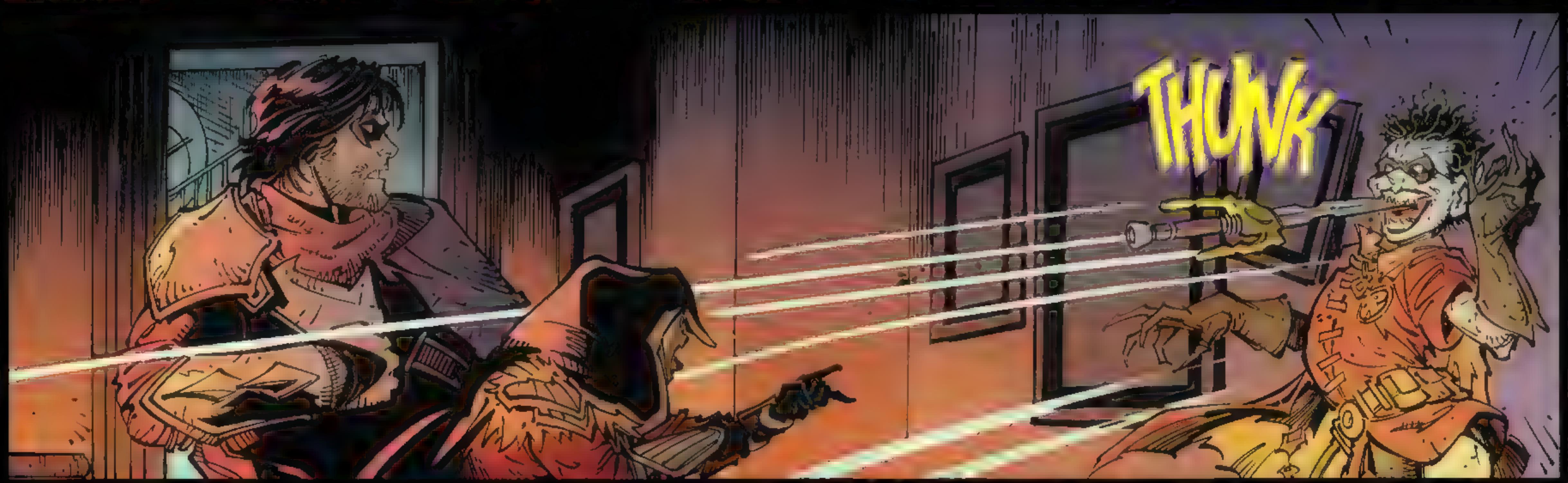
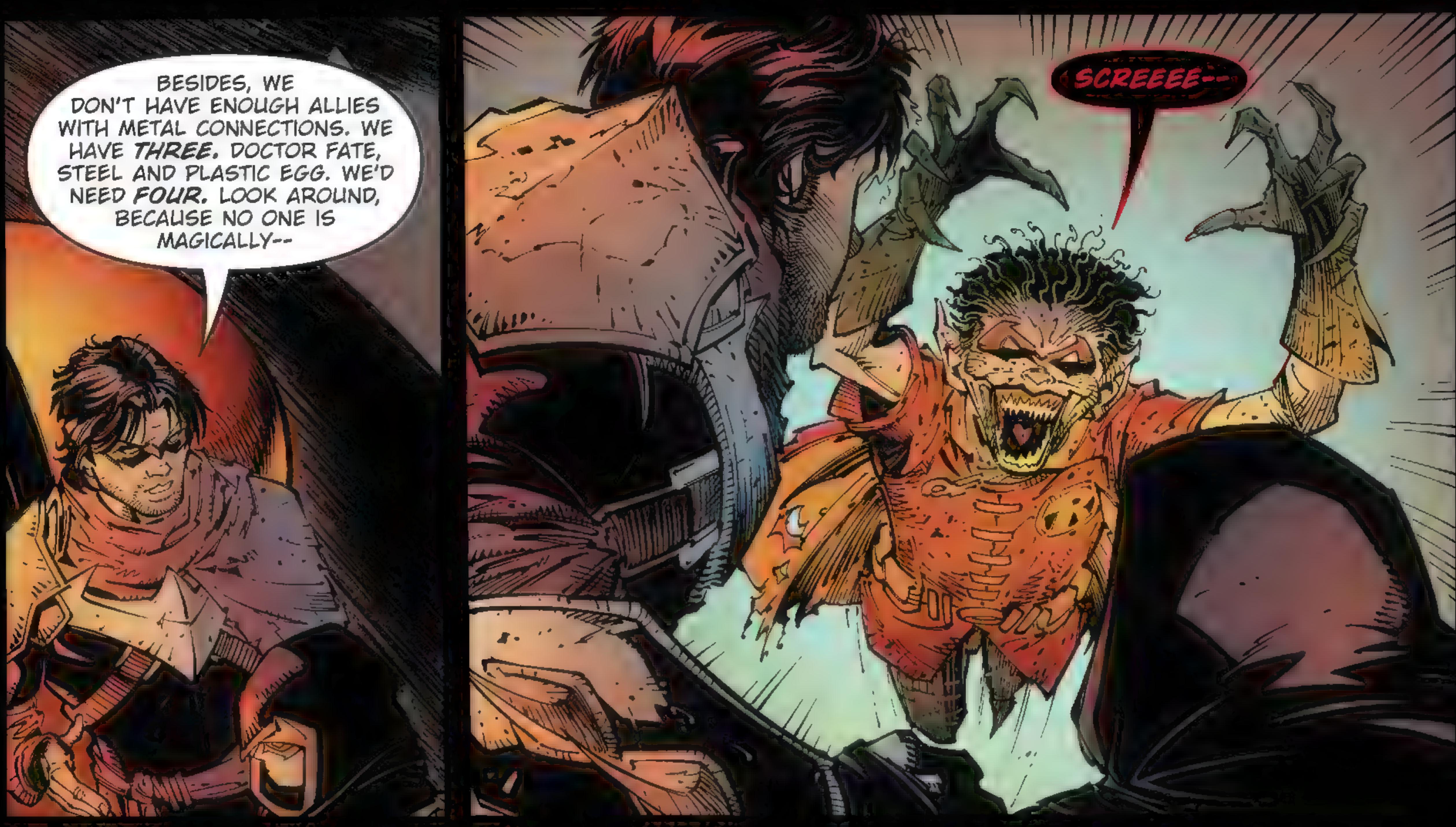
YOU BASTARD!

THEY'RE NOT HIM!  
THEY'RE HIS WORST FEARS!  
AND HE'S TRAPPED OUT THERE WITH THEM! SUPERMAN'S RIGHT!  
WE NEED TO GO GET MY FATHER!

NO! WE DON'T.  
WE SAVE HIM BY DOING  
WHAT HE'D WANT US  
TO DO--FIGHT HERE  
AND NOW!

BESIDES, WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH ALLIES WITH METAL CONNECTIONS. WE HAVE THREE. DOCTOR FATE, STEEL AND PLASTIC EGG. WE'D NEED FOUR. LOOK AROUND, BECAUSE NO ONE IS MAGICALLY--

SCREEEE--



PLEASE. I'M TELLING YOU, BATMAN CALLED TO ME. AND THE METALS THEY TREATED HIM WITH, HE COULD EVEN BE THE KEY TO THEIR PLAN. THE POWER SOURCE BARBATOIS IS WAITING TO ACTIVATE WHEN THOSE TOWERS GET BIG ENOUGH.

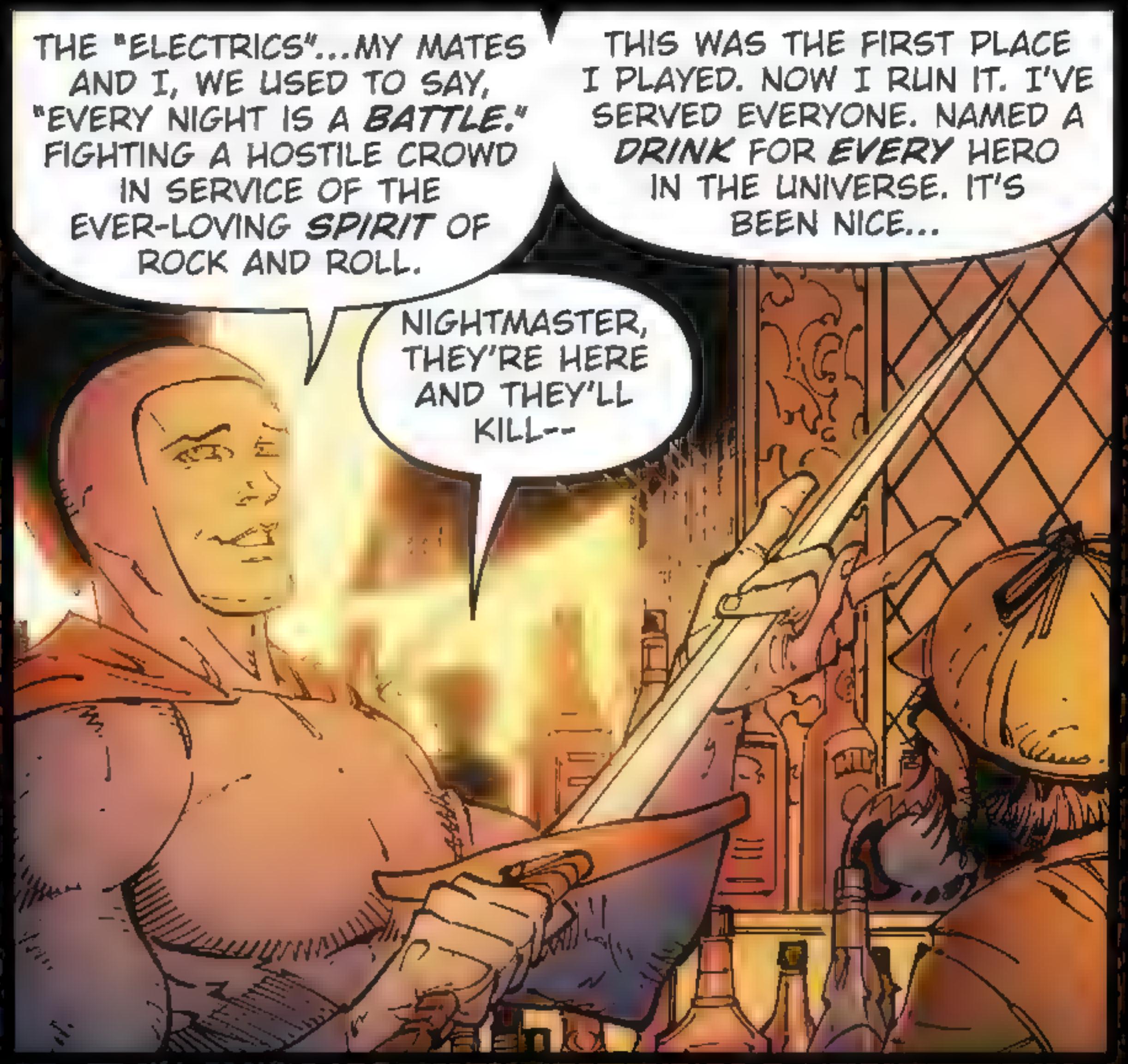
LOOK, BARBATOIS IS TRYING TO DRAG US INTO THE DARK. AND IT'S WINNING, DAMMIT. BUT IF ITS ESSENCE IS DARKNESS, THE FASTEST WAY TO BRING US DOWN IS TO STOP US FROM HOPING...

...FROM VENTURING INTO THE UNKNOWN, SEARCHING FOR THE LIGHT. OUR FRIEND MIGHT BE THAT LIGHT, AND HE NEEDS US.

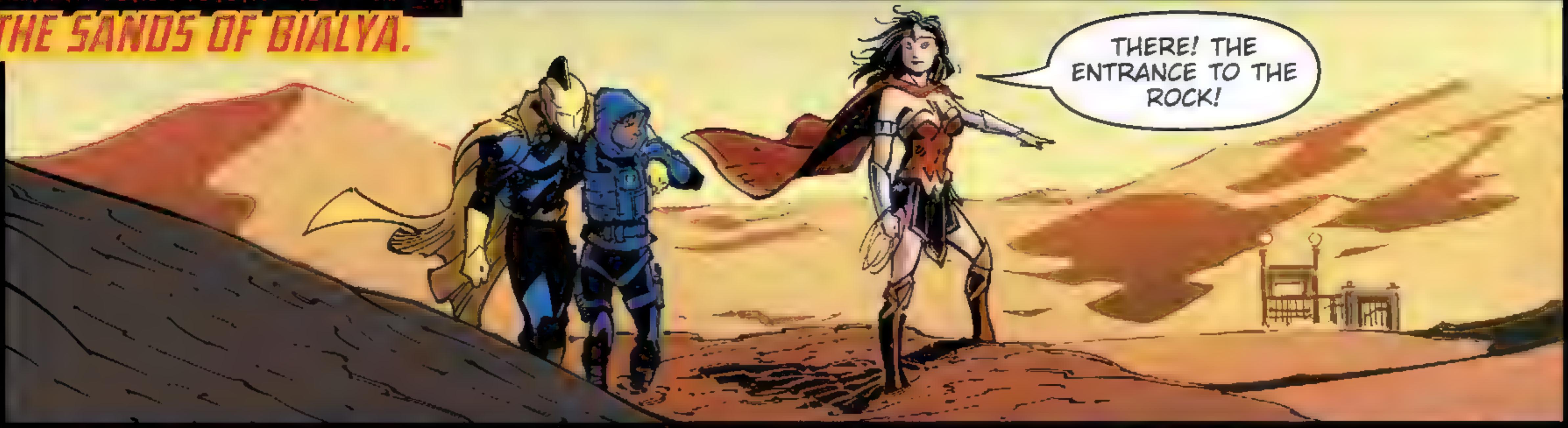
NOW, I HAVE A WAY TO GET TO THE DARK MULTIVERSE, BUT I'LL NEED YOUR HELP, FLASH. YOU TOO, STEEL.

IRIS...EVERYONE I CARE ABOUT NEEDS ME RIGHT NOW, BUT I...I'LL HELP YOU FIRST.





"AW, WHERE'S EVERYONE GOING?"  
**THE SANDS OF BIALYA.**



THERE! THE  
ENTRANCE TO THE  
ROCK!

## SPACE SECTOR 2602, POLARIS SYSTEM.

NO OFFENSE, BUT  
I WORK HERE, AND  
THERE'S NOTHING AT THESE  
COORDINATES.

THANAGAR IS.  
THE PLANET YOU KNEW  
WAS SIMPLY AN  
OUTPOST.

WE'RE GOING TO  
THE HIDDEN HEART  
OF THE EMPIRE. WHERE  
NO HUMAN EVER HAS.

SO, MAN TO...  
FISH-MAN...MERMAIDS,  
HOW DO THEY  
ACTUALLY--

I'M ABOUT TO  
COMMIT A SIN THAT  
WILL LIKELY DESTROY  
ALL OF ATLANTIS.

SO SWIM WITH  
YOUR MOUTH  
SHUT.

## MARIANA TRENCH.

## THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE.

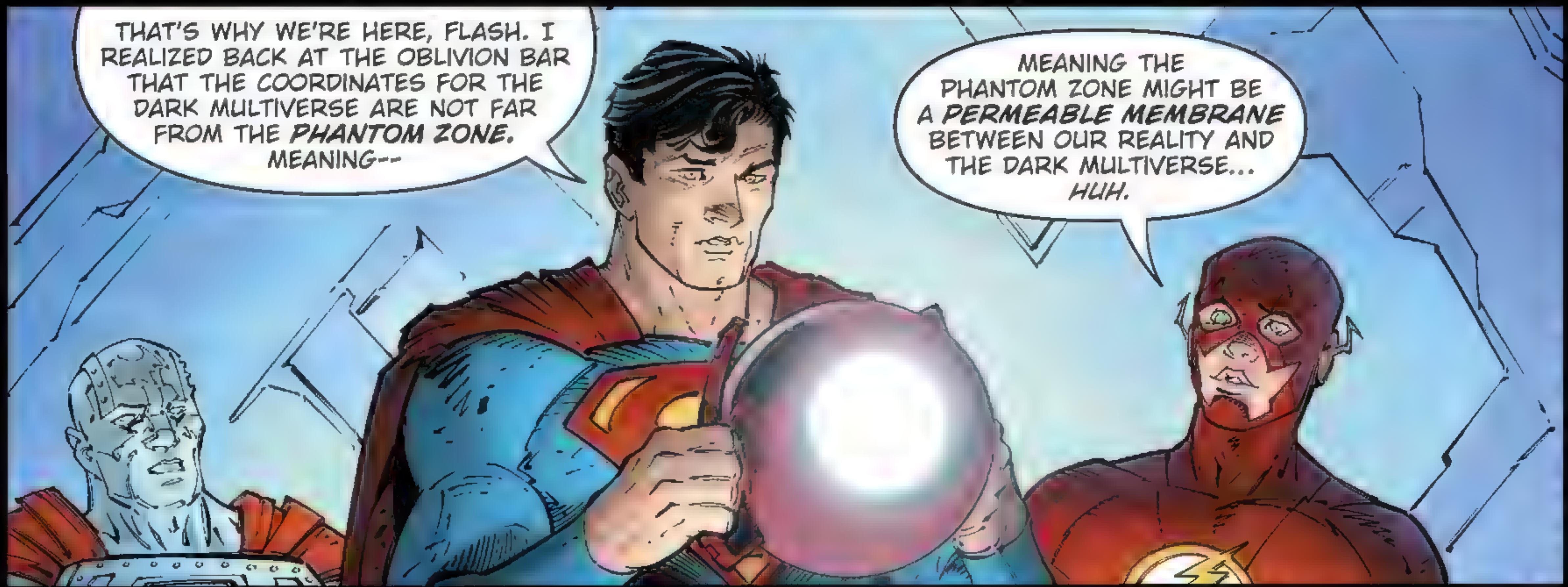
WHAT THE--  
SUPERMAN, TELL  
ME THAT'S NOT  
THE ANTENNA THE  
ANTI-MONITOR  
USED TO--

IT IS.  
BATMAN HID IT  
HERE TO STUDY AND  
CONDUCT MULTIVERSAL  
ENERGY.

CONDUCT?!  
LOOK AT IT! IT'S ABOUT  
TO EXPLODE WITH  
DARK ENERGY!

MEANING THE  
PHANTOM ZONE MIGHT BE  
A PERMEABLE MEMBRANE  
BETWEEN OUR REALITY AND  
THE DARK MULTIVERSE...  
HUH.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE, FLASH. I  
REALIZED BACK AT THE OBLIVION BAR  
THAT THE COORDINATES FOR THE  
DARK MULTIVERSE ARE NOT FAR  
FROM THE PHANTOM ZONE.  
MEANING--



MAYBE, IF WE OPEN A PORTAL WITH THE PHANTOM ZONE PROJECTOR WHILE WE SUPER-CHARGE THE ANTENNA WITH THE SPEED FORCE, STEEL'S CONNECTION TO NTH METAL MIGHT CREATE AN ENERGY LINK TO THE DARK MULTIVERSE... AND BATMAN HIMSELF.

YOU REALLY THINK STEEL'S COMPASS IS POINTING TO BATMAN, THAT HE'S BECOME SOME PART OF THIS BATTERY THEY'RE GOING TO TURN ON?

THERE'S NOTHING DARKER THAN MAKING A HERO THE LEVER FOR EVIL.  
YES, I DO.



THE ANTENNA, JOHN. IF IT'S TOO MUCH--

I'M A MAN OF SCIENCE, CLARK, BUT I TOOK MY NAME FROM A STEEL DRIVER. AND NO MACHINE IS GOING TO GET THE BEST OF ME. SO ALL THAT'S LEFT TO SAY...



"...IS READY... SET... GO!"

FAST AS YOU CAN, BARRY!

SO WHY HAVEN'T THEY USED HIM YET?

MAYBE HE'S FIGHTING THEM, STEEL. BUT IF THEY ACTIVATE THE CIRCUIT, AND WE SINK, BARBATOS WILL BE ABLE TO OPEN PORTALS TO INFINITE WORLDS OF NIGHTMARE.

THEN WHAT THE HELL ARE WE WAITING FOR?



I'M GOING! BUT I NEED TO KNOW...WHAT WAS THE CODE THAT YOU AND DIANA AND BRUCE HAD?

"IT WAS SIMPLE, BASED ON OUR NAMES. IF I WAS IN TROUBLE, I'D SEND A 'D.B.' FOR DIANA AND BRUCE."

"DIANA'S CALL WAS 'B.C.' FOR BRUCE AND CLARK. BRUCE'S WAS--"

"C.D.' I GET IT, BUT... CARPE DIEM?"

"I FELT IT, BARRY. HE WAS CALLING FOR HELP."

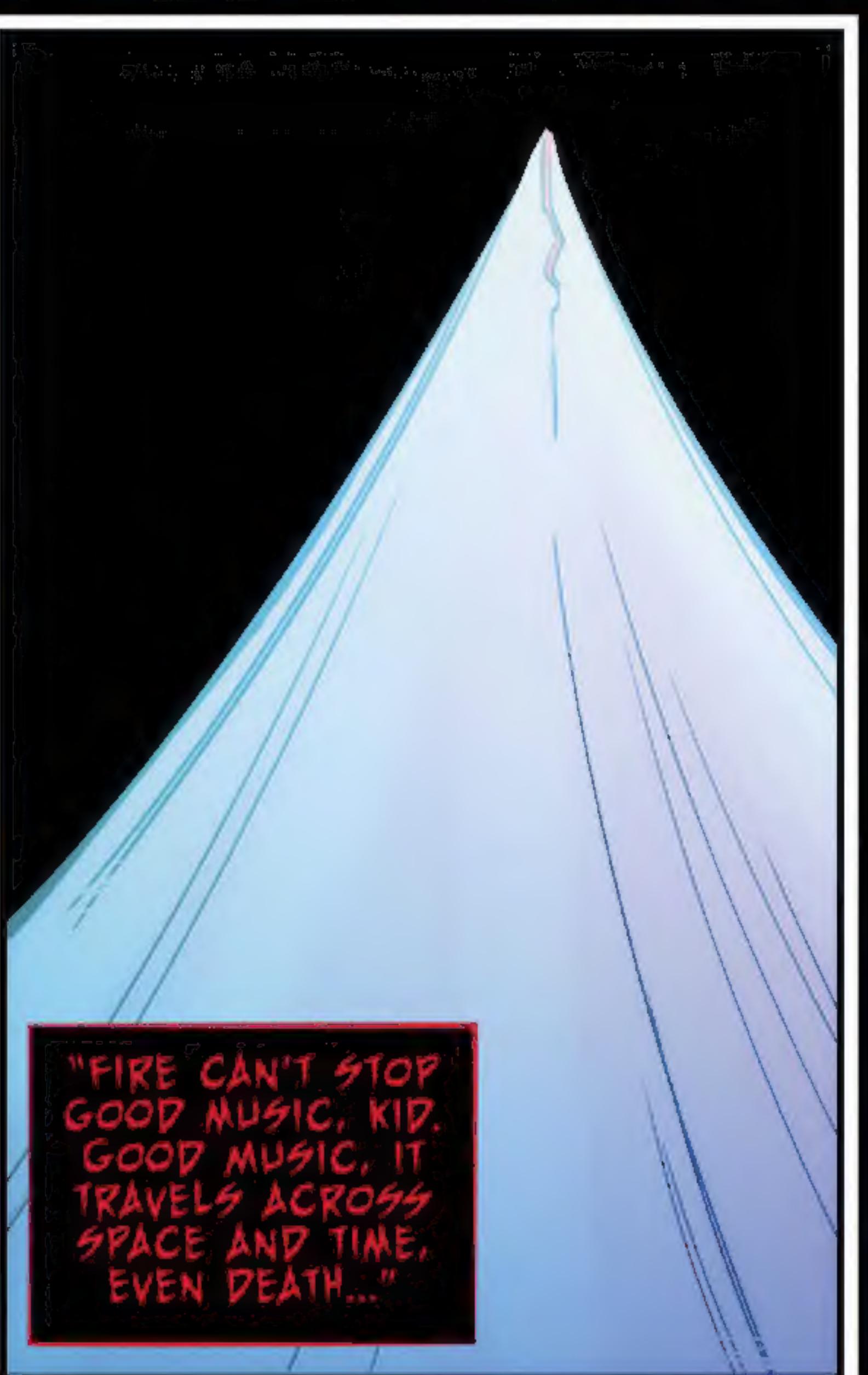
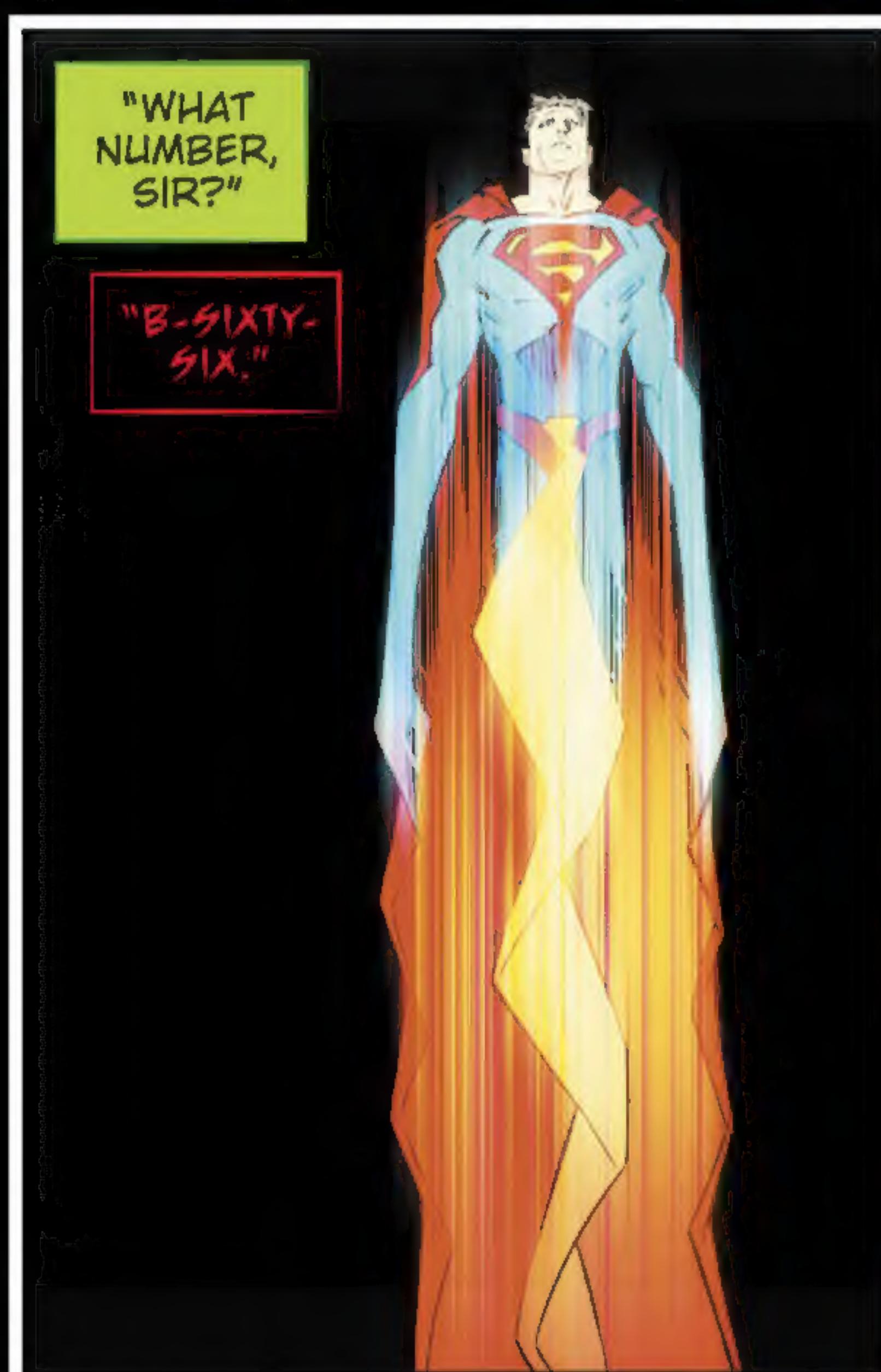
"ARRG! IT'S WORKING! DO IT NOW!"

KRACKOOM!

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, CLARK...NOW GO!

RAHHH!

I'M COMING FOR YOU, BRUCE...



...TRAP?

AN..."S"?  
OH GOD.  
NO.

## THE DARK MULTIVERSE

FINALLY!  
YOU'VE  
ARRIVED!

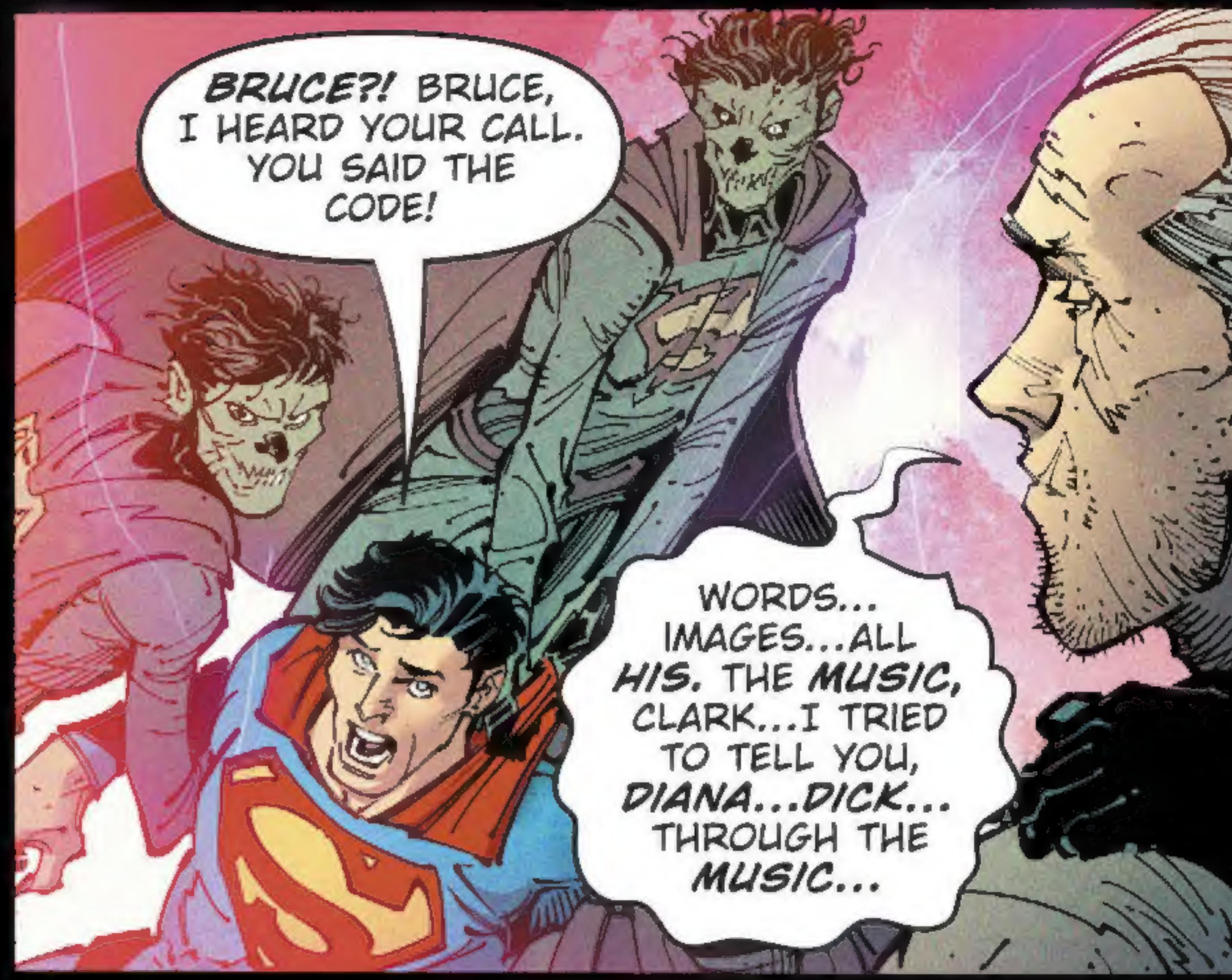
NO! STOP!  
LET ME--

YOU'RE  
HERE! WE'VE  
BEEN  
WAITING SO  
LONG!

WAITING  
JUST FOR  
YOU!

THIS CAN'T BE  
HAPPENING! IT--

CLARK...  
CLARK, WHY...



"...THE ONLY WAY TO COMMUNICATE ACROSS THE MULTIVERSE. VIBRATIONS. THE NOTES OF THE SONG... THE SONG OUR SONS PLAYED... STARTS D... THEN C..."

NA NA NA NA NA

"THE REVERSE OF MY CODE."

"IT WAS A WARNING, CLARK! I WAS SAYING DON'T COME HERE!"



...AND NOW  
THE WORLD WILL  
SINK...

...INTO  
DARKNESS...

FIZZ FIZZ

**NEXT: Discover the Nightmare of the Dark Multiverse in BATMAN: LOST!**  
**Then in Two months: The Road to Darkness Begins in METAL #4!**